

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~Sub A 17~~ A method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network to a user's computer, the steps comprising:

2 providing a database of data streams;
4 selecting a data stream according to a selection method;
transmitting one of said data streams to the user's computer;
6 receiving feedback expressing a preference from the user regarding said
transmitted data stream; and
8 updating said selection method to better reflect said preference of the
user; whereby
10 data streams transmitted to the user are biased according to said
preference.

2. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network to a user's computer of Claim 1, further comprising:

2 said selection method including generating a list of data streams to
4 transmit to the user's computer;
transmitting one of said listed data streams to the user's computer; and
6 updating said list of data streams to better reflect said preference of the
user; whereby
8 data streams transmitted to the user are biased according to said
preference.

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3. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim 1, the steps further comprising:
- 2 receiving feedback expressing preferences from sources other than the
- 4 user.
4. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim 3, wherein the step of receiving preferences from sources other than the user further comprises:
- 2 receiving feedback expressing preferences from the group consisting of
- 4 other users, commercial radio stations, and lists of popular songs.
5. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 informing the user generally regarding said database and said data
- 4 streams;
- 6 querying the user as to data stream preference prior to generating an
- initial transmission list of data streams; whereby
- said initial list reflects general preferences of the user.
6. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim 1, wherein said data streams are selected from the group consisting of songs and videos.

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The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim

1, wherein said transmitted data stream is removed from said transmission list.

8. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim

7, wherein said data stream removed from said transmission list is listed on a transmitted data stream list.

9. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim

1, wherein said step of transmitting one of said data streams further comprises transmitting said one of said data streams in conformance with applicable copyright law.

10. The method for broadcasting data streams through a computer network of Claim

9, wherein said conformance with applicable copyright law applies to all transmitted datastreams.

11. A data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user, comprising:

a connection to a computer network, said computer network connected to a computer of the user;

a database of data streams, said database available to said computer network;

a data stream controller, said data stream controller transmitting data

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streams to said user's computer according to a selection program;

a user interface, said user interface coupled to said user's computer and receiving said data streams for the user and providing a feedback mechanism for the user so that the user may indicate a preference regarding data streams transmitted by said data stream controller;

said selection program receiving indications from the user, said selection program modifying its selection of data streams for transmission to said user's computer according to said user preference; whereby

data streams selected by said selection program are biased according to said user preference.

12. The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 11, wherein said computer network comprises the Internet.

13. The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 11, wherein said database is a song database and the data streams are songs.

14. The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 11, wherein said database is a music video database and the data streams are music videos.

15. The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 11, wherein said user interface comprises an electronic media player.

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16.

The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 15, wherein said electronic media player is selected from the group consisting of RealPlayer, Apple QuickTime, and Windows Media Player.

17.

The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 11, wherein said selection program creates a list of data streams for transmission to the user.

18.

The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user of Claim 17, wherein said selection program modifies said list of data streams for transmission to the user according to said user preference.

19.

The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user as set forth in Claim 11, further comprising:

said data stream controller transmitting said data streams in compliance with applicable copyright law.

20.

The data stream system for providing preferred data streams to a user as set forth in Claim 19, further comprising:

said data stream controller transmitting all data streams in compliance with applicable copyright law.

21.

A user interface for an Internet datastream transmission system, comprising:

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a media player, said playing data streams;

a rating tool, said rating tool indicating a rating for a data stream

currently played by said media player; and

a data stream information display, said data stream information display displaying information for said data stream currently played by said media player; whereby

a user can indicate a preference regarding said data stream currently played by said media player.

22. A user interface for an Internet datastream transmission system as set forth in Claim 21, further comprising:

a playlist generator, said playlist generator generating playlists of data streams for said media player, said playlist generator selecting data streams according to preferences indicated by said user.

23. A user interface for an Internet datastream transmission system as set forth in Claim 22, further comprising:

said data streams selected by said playlist generator being in compliance with applicable copyright law.

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